



Cerep grants BioPrint® access to AstraZeneca

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Cerep announced today that AstraZeneca has acquired a license to Cerep's proprietary BioPrint® database. Through this alliance, AstraZeneca will have non-exclusive access to physicochemical, pharmacological and clinical data on BioPrint® compounds as well as to BioPrint® informatics tools to support internal drug discovery and development. Payment of the license fee has been recognized upon acceptance of the data and IT tools delivered by Cerep in the first quarter 2006.

"We are very happy to announce this alliance with AstraZeneca. BioPrint® has been established in the industry as an extremely useful tool to support drug discovery and drug development. We are particularly proud to have the value of BioPrint® recognized by AstraZeneca.", commented Mark Crawford, Executive Vice President for Cerep.

"We believe that database-supported pharmaco-informatics can play an important role in expediting drug discovery. We have been pleased with Cerep's BioPrint® database and we look forward to implementing this tool at AstraZeneca" commented Tim Hammond, Vice President of Safety Assessment UK, for AstraZeneca.

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Cerep's mission is to provide pharmaceutical companies with high quality services in drug discovery and drug development as well as drug candidates at different preclinical and clinical stages. Cerep provides solutions allowing faster and cost effective drug discovery by identifying at early stages the most promising drug candidates as well as eliminating those compounds likely to fail in development. Cerep's integrated platform encompasses a complete range of technologies including chemistry, biology, and informatics.

Cerep's technologies benefit to more than 360 pharmaceutical and biotechnological companies worldwide including most of the top pharmaceutical firms. Cerep's drug pipeline includes collaborative drug candidates developed with Sanofi-Aventis and Bristol-Myers Squibb (with two compounds in clinical trials for immuno-inflammatory disorders), as well as products discovered on its own (including one compound in phase I/II clinical trial in the field of cancer). Cerep's development strategy aims at self-financing its research.

Statements included in this press release which are not historical in nature are intended to be, and are hereby identified as, "forward-looking statements" for purposes of the safe harbor provided by Section 21E of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended by the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995. Forward-looking statements may be identified by words including "anticipates", "believes", "intends", "estimates", "expects" and similar expressions. The company cautions readers that forward-looking statements, including without limitation those relating to the company's future operations and business prospects, are subject to certain risks and uncertainties that could cause actual results to differ materially from those indicated in the forward-looking statements. Factors that may affect future operations and business prospects include, but are not limited to, clinical and scientific results and developments concerning corporate collaborations and the company's proprietary rights and other factors described in the company's Document de référence.